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ROSENMEYER

edited by  
Mark  
Griffith  
and  
Donald J. Mastrorarde



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# CABINET OF THE MUSES

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Honor of Thomas G. Rosenmeyer

edited by

Mark Griffith

and

Donald J. Mastronarde

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Thomas G. Rosenmeyer

## EDITORS' PREFACE

In the Spring of 1990, Thomas G. Rosenmeyer, Professor of Classics and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Berkeley, celebrates his 70th birthday and retires from teaching and administrative service. His research and writing will no doubt continue, and we, like many of his colleagues and friends, will be counting on him still for his unfailingly warm and sympathetic attention to our concerns as well as his acute and provocative criticisms of our ideas; but Tom's absence from teaching and day-to-day business will be sorely felt by both his departments, which he has adorned not only with the distinction of his scholarship but with the loyalty and efficiency of a stalwart member and with the reflected glory of his service to the Berkeley campus and to his profession. After highly successful years teaching at the State University of Iowa (1947-52), Smith College (1952-55), and the University of Washington (1955-66), Tom arrived at Berkeley in 1966 and was instrumental in the early organization of the Department of Comparative Literature. He has been one of its mainstays ever since; and more recently he was involved in the planning for Berkeley's Center for the Humanities. He has been chair of both his departments and has served as Divisional Dean of Humanities. He has also been active in the professional organizations of both disciplines, serving, for instance, as President of the American Philological Association in 1989. His stature in the community of scholars is well indicated by his having received the rare honor of a second Guggenheim Fellowship.

When we first contemplated acknowledging this milestone in Tom's career with an honorary publication, we asked him how he would feel about such an offering. He said that he would be particularly pleased if a volume could be produced which reflected the sort of combination of classical and comparative literary studies which he has himself practiced throughout his career. Whether we consider *The Green Cabinet*, *The Art of Aeschylus*, the chapter on drama in M. I. Finley's *Legacy of Greece*, his latest book *Senecan Drama and Stoic Cosmology*, or his Eidos series for the University of California Press, the important characteristics of his scholarship are these: sensitive and provocative attention to the ancient texts in the light of an immense range of ancient and modern literature; facility in pinpointing those aspects and techniques of modern texts which significantly borrow from, continue, or consciously modify ancient models; interest in the connections between literature and the contemporary currents of philosophical thought; scrutiny of the interplay and tension between literary theory and literary practice; openness to the ambiguities and imprecisions of both literary expression itself and the interpretative strategies of scholars.

We invited a number of Tom's colleagues, former students, and close friends in Classics and Comparative Literature to submit articles that would address the broad interests and sophisticated perspectives that are exemplified in his own work. There were many who would have wished to be represented in this volume but who were prevented from contributing by other commitments or by the guidelines which we editors imposed. Nevertheless, we are gratified by the number of scholars who have been able to contribute, and we hope that the result will strike Tom (and others) as at least a pale reflection of the range of his own interests.

\* \* \* \* \*

We wish to record here our gratitude to a number of referees who examined submissions to the volume and to Patricia Bulman for assistance with proofreading. In preparing this volume we relied on a generous provision of supplies and equipment by the Department of Classics, and for financial support for the costs of printing we thank both the Department of Classics and the Department of Comparative Literature, as well as both the Divisional Dean of Humanities Carol Christ and the Dean of the Graduate Division/Provost for Research Joseph Cerny. Finally, we thank Lilo Rosenmeyer and Patricia A. Rosenmeyer for supplying the photograph and for other help.

Mark Griffith                      Donald J. Mastronarde  
University of California, Berkeley                      July 1989

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In many cases the pagination of the original could not be preserved, because 16-year old word-processing files were being manipulated with current software. The original pagination is shown with a bold-faced page number enclosed by bold-faced square brackets placed before the first word of the new page.

#### NOTE ON TRANSLITERATION

In order to make the essays in this volume attractive to a broader audience, we have encouraged contributors to translate Latin and Greek, and a good deal of the Greek appears in transliterated form. As a convenience of our typography,  $\eta$  and  $\omega$  are represented by  $\hat{e}$  and  $\hat{o}$ , other long vowels are not marked except when necessary to avoid ambiguity.

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